

## Message Text

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14

ACTION OES-06

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 L-03 COME-00 AGRE-00 INT-05 CG-00

      DOTE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 DLOS-06 SAL-01 PA-01

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FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9930

INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

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EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIS, KS

SUBJ: ROK DIRECTOR GENERAL OF FISHERIES EXTENDS

CONTROL OVER KOREAN DEEP SEA FISHERMEN

REF: STATE 202337; SEOUL 5848

SUMMARY: DURING HIS AUGUST 1976 VISIT TO THE U.S. FOR CONSULTATIONS WITH U.S. GOVERNMENTAL AND PRIVATE FISHERY INTERESTS, THEN RECENTLY APPOINTED DIRECTOR GENERAL OF THE ROK OFFICE OF FISHERIES AFFAIRS (OFA), RETIRED ADMIRAL SHIN TAE-YOUNG, WAS IMPRESSED BY THE HOSTILITY EXPRESSED TOWARD KOREAN FISHING OPERATIONS OFF THE COASTS OF THE UNITED STATES. SINCE HIS RETURN HE HAS INAUGURATED A SERIES OF MEASURES INTENDED TO TIGHTEN ROKG ORGANIZATION AND CONTROL OVER ITS DEEP SEA FISHERMEN TO ASSURE FULL COMPLIANCE WITH EXISTING INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS AS WELL AS TO ENHANCE U.S. CONFIDENCE THAT KOREA WILL BE ABLE TO ABIDE BY ITS COMMITMENTS UNDER THE GOVERNING INTERNATIONAL FISHERIES AGREEMENT SHORTLY TO BE CONCLUDED WITH THE USG. END SUMMARY.

1. THROUGHOUT HIS AUGUST 1976 VISIT TO WASHINGTON,  
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D.C. AND FISHERY CENTERS IN THE U.S., ADMIRAL SHIN

WAS EXPOSED TO U.S. FISHERMEN'S FEELING OF HOSTILITY TOWARD FOREIGN FISHERMEN WHO OPERATE IN U.S. COASTAL AREAS AND TO EXPRESSIONS OF PARTICULAR DISSATISFACTION OF USG OFFICIALS THAT KOREA'S RECORD OF COOPERATION UNDER THE US/KOREA FISHERY AGREEMENT HAD NOT MET THEIR EXPECTATIONS. ARRIVING ON AUGUST 8 IN JUNEAU, THE DIRECTOR GENERAL ENCOUNTERED HEATED LOCAL REACTION TO THE LATEST U.S. COAST GUARD SEIZURE OF A KOREAN BOAT WITH CRAB, HALIBUT AND SEAL LION REMAINS ABOARD. HE WAS ESPECIALLY JARRED BY THE PUBLIC JUDGMENT BY GOVERNOR HAMMAND A FEW DAYS BEFORE HIS ARRIVAL THAT, "THE KOREANS ARE BRIGANDS ON THE SEAS AND SUPPLIANTS IN WASHINGTON."

2. ACCORDING TO AIDES WHO ACCOMPANIED HIM, ADMIRAL SHIN HAD BEEN ON THE OPINION THAT THE THREAT OF THE VERY HIGH FINES WHICH WOULD BE IMPOSED ON VESSELS FOUND IN VIOLATION OF U.S. FISHING REGULATIONS ACTS AS A STRONG DETERRENT AGAINST VIOLATIONS BY KOREANS VESSELS. HE REPORTEDLY WAS APPALLED BY THE SEIZURES OF TWO KOREAN VESSELS ON THE EVE OF NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE U.S. ON THE GIFA AND DISMAYED BY THE SERIOUS PUBLIC RELATIONS FALLOUT AGAINST KOREA IN ALASKA.

3. IN HIS MEETING WITH GOVERNOR HAMMAND, ADMIRAL SHIN PROMISED TO TAKE STEPS TO IMPROVE ROKG CONTROL OVER ITS FISHERMEN. UPON HIS RETURN, HE ANNOUNCED THAT THE ROKG WILL SUSPEND OR CANCEL THE FISHING LICENSES OF VESSELS WHICH HENCEFORTH VIOLATE THE US/ROK AGREEMENT. ADDITIONALLY, THREE OFA INSPECTORS WERE DISPATCHED OCTOBER 1, 1976 TO MOVE AMONG THE VESSELS IN THE NORTH PACIFIC TO MONITOR THE ACTIVITIES OF KOREAN BOATS AND TO ASSURE OBSERVANCE OF THE AGREEMENT INCLUDING THE COLLECTION OF DATA. THE OFA INSPECTORS HAVE AUTHORITY TO ENFORCE HIS ORDERS RE THE RETURN TO KOREA OF VESSELS FOUND NOT REPEAT NOT TO BE OBSERVING THE AGREEMENT. OFA IS ADDITIONALLY SEEKING A BUDGET FOR THE DISPATCH THE TAE HAN SO, A RESEARCH PATROL VESSEL, TO THE EAST BERING SEA TO ENHANCE THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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INSPECTORS.

4. LASTLY, RUMORS OF THE PAST TWO MONTHS THAT OFA DEPUTY DIRECTOR HIM IN-SOO WOULD BE REPLACED IN FAVOR OF SOMEONE WITH STRONGER TECHNICAL EXPERTISE IN FISHERY MATTERS WERE BORNE OUT ON OCTOBER 6, 1976 WHEN HONG JANG JOO (M/R JU HONG-JANG) DIRECTOR OF THE CONSTRUCTION BUREAU, WAS MOVED UP TO REPLACE HIM IN-SON (M/R

KIM IN-SU) WHO LEFT OFA TO BECOME VICE PRESIDENT OF THE ONSAN  
COPPER REFINERY CO. FORMER OFA SPOKESMAN BONG WHAN CHANG/ (M/R  
CHANG BONG-WHAN) WILL REPLACE MR. JOO AS HEAD OF THE CONSTRUCTION  
BUREAU. MR. JOO IS WELL AND FAVORABLY KNOWN TO  
DEPARTMENT AND NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE  
OFFICERS WHO HAVE HAD CLOSE DEALINGS WITH HIM IN  
HIS PAST CAPACITY AS DIRECTOR OF THE BUREAU OF  
FISHERIES PROMOTION. THE DEPUTY DIRECTORSHII OF  
OFA IS A CLASS ONE POSITION EQUATING WITH THE  
ASSISTANT MINISTERIAL POSITIONS IN OTHER AGENCIES.

5. EMBASSY COMMENT: ADMIRAL SHIN'S EFFORTS  
REPRESENT A SINCERE ATTEMPT TO ESTABLISH CONFIDENCE  
ON THE PART OF USG OFFICIALS THAT IN FISHERIES  
MATTERS THE ROKG IS DETERMINED TO CORRECT AS SOON  
AS POSSIBLE ITS PAST SHORTCOMINGS IN MEETING ITS  
OBLIGATIONS TO THE U.S. UNDER THE AGREEMENT. HE  
HAS WON THE APPLAUSE OF INTELLIGENT INDUSTRY LEADERS  
AND HAS THEIR CONFIDENCE AND THAT OF OFA TO A  
DEGREE UNMATCHED BY HIS PREDECESSORS.  
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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
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**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** FISHERIES, POLICIES, NEGOTIATIONS  
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**Draft Date:** 08 OCT 1976  
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**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
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**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
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**To:** STATE  
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